Failure of computers during rail reservations

*126. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no alternative arrangement exists in the Railways to tell the position of reservations, in case of computer failure;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any arrangements to avoid inconvenience to passengers in such situations;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the alternate arrangement would be made by Government to tell the position of reservations, in case of computer failure?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (d) It is a fact that position of reservation on real-time basis is not available in case of failure of Central Computers. However, in the event of computer failure on the day of departure of train, the position of reservation, updated upto the close of the previous day, can be obtained from skeleton charts displayed at the platform at the time of departure of a train.

For minimizing the computer failures, more and more reliable back-up and upgrading of existing computer systems is an ongoing process. Indian Railways have recently, inducted latest state-of-the-art Alpha computers, in order to improve reliability. These computers help quick restart of reservation services by way of achieving speedy system reboot etc. Failure rate of these servers is also very low.

Recovery of licence fee/royalty by IIP, Dehradun

*127. SHRI P.N. SIVA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun was expected to develop around 45 technologies during 1994—2000;